

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, CI

SUBJECT: INVENTORY OF CHILE TRADE PROBLEMS

1. ONE OF THE KEY AREAS OF LATIN AMERICAN CONCERN HAS BEEN THAT OF US-LATIN AMERICAN TRADE ISSUES. THIS WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY THE MEXICO CITY AND WASHINGTON FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETINGS AND BY AMBASSADOR EBERLE'S TRADE CONSULTATION TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA. AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE SECRETARY'S INITIATIVES IN THE TRADE FIELD, THE DEPARTMENT IS IDENTIFYING THE SIGNIFICANT COUNTRY-SPECIFIC TRADE PROBLEMS OF THE REGION.

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2. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE DEPARTMENT HAS PREPARED A PRE-LIMINARY INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT TRADE ISSUES AFFECTING CHILE (SEE PARA. 3). THE ISSUES HAVE BEEN GROUPED UNDER FOUR GENERAL HEADINGS WHICH INCLUDE PROBLEMS THAT CHILE HAS WITH THE US AS WELL AS PROBLEMS WE HAVE WITH THEM. THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO REVIEW THE LISTING AND SUBMIT ANY ADDITIONS OR COMMENTS PRIOR TO AUGUST 7.

3.A. PRINCIPAL CHILEAN TRADE PROBLEMS WITH THE US:

1. ENSURING ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF US FERROUS SCRAP, WHICH IS NEEDED BOTH FOR COPPER REFINING AND FOR STEELMAKING.
2. ENSURING ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF ALPHA CELLULOSE FOR RAYON AND PACKAGING INDUSTRIES.
3. PROPOSED MODIFICATION OF US REGULATIONS GOVERNING BOTTLE SIZES AND STANDARDS OF FILL FOR WINE.

B. PRINCIPAL US TRADE PROBLEMS WITH CHILE:

CHILE'S SUPPORT FOR UNILATERAL PRODUCER EFFORTS IN CIPEC TO ESTABLISH FLOOR PRICE FOR COPPER (ALTHOUGH SUCH PRICE WOULD NOT SERIOUSLY IMPACT US ECONOMY).

C. PRINCIPAL CHILEAN TRADE PROBLEMS WITH OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES:

CHRONIC UNFAVORABLE TRADE BALANCES WITH ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, ANDEAN GROUP, MEXICO.

D. PRINCIPAL CHILEAN TRADE PROBLEMS WITH NON-HEMISPHERIC COUNTRIES:

ASSURING AN ADEQUATE AND REASONABLY-PRICED PETROLEUM SUPPLY. KISSINGER

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